

What is claimed is:

1. A system for providing bidirectional video teleconferences on a mobile platform, the system comprising:
 - a first video teleconference terminal disposed on a mobile platform;
 - a first local area network arranged to provide network data services on the mobile platform and arranged to communicate with the first video teleconference terminal;
 - a second video teleconference terminal; and
 - a second local area network arranged to provide network data services and arranged to communicate with the second video teleconference terminal, the first and second local area networks being in bidirectional packet data radio frequency communications, wherein packets of video teleconference data are prioritized over packets of data for services other than video teleconferencing.
2. The system of Claim 1, further comprising a first quality of service device coupled between the first video teleconference terminal and the first local area network on the mobile platform and arranged to prioritize first packets of video teleconference data that are transmitted from the mobile platform over second packets of data that are transmitted from the mobile platform for services other than video teleconferencing.
3. The system of Claim 2, further comprising a second quality of service device coupled between the second video teleconference terminal and the second local area network and arranged to prioritize third packets of video teleconference data that are transmitted to the mobile platform over fourth packets of data that are transmitted to the mobile platform for services other than video teleconferencing.
4. The system of Claim 1, further comprising:
 - a plurality of headsets, each headset having a microphone and at least one headphone; and
 - an audio interface unit connectable to the first video teleconference terminal and the plurality of headsets, the audio interface unit being arranged to supply to all of the headphones an audio signal that includes first audio signal components from all of the microphones and that further includes a second audio signal component from the second video teleconference terminal.

5. The system of Claim 4, wherein the microphones include noise canceling microphones.

6. The system of Claim 4, wherein the headphones include noise canceling headphones.

7. The system of Claim 1, wherein the radio frequency communication is conducted via satellite links.

8. The system of Claim 1, wherein the mobile platform includes an aircraft.

9. A system for providing bidirectional video teleconferences on a mobile platform, the system comprising:

a first video teleconference terminal disposed on a mobile platform;

a first local area network arranged to provide network data services on the mobile platform and arranged to communicate with the first video teleconference terminal;

a second video teleconference terminal;

a second local area network arranged to provide network data services and arranged to communicate with the second video teleconference terminal, the first and second local area networks being in bidirectional packet data radio frequency communications, wherein packets of video teleconference data are prioritized over packets of data for services other than video teleconferencing;

a first quality of service device coupled between the first video teleconference terminal and the first local area network on the mobile platform and arranged to prioritize first packets of video teleconference data that are transmitted from the mobile platform over second packets of data that are transmitted from the mobile platform for services other than video teleconferencing;

a second quality of service device coupled between the second video teleconference terminal and the second local area network and arranged to prioritize third packets of video teleconference data that are transmitted to the mobile platform over fourth packets of data that are transmitted to the mobile platform for services other than video teleconferencing;

a plurality of headsets, each headset having a microphone and at least one headphone; and

an audio interface connectable to the first video teleconference terminal and the plurality of headsets, the audio interface unit being arranged to supply to all of

the headphones an audio signal that includes first audio signal components from all of the microphones and that further includes a second audio signal component from the second video teleconference terminal.

10. The system of Claim 9, wherein the microphones include noise canceling microphones.

11. The system of Claim 9, wherein the headphones include noise canceling headphones.

12. The system of Claim 9, wherein the radio frequency communication is conducted via satellite links.

13. The system of Claim 9, wherein the mobile platform includes an aircraft.

14. A system for providing bidirectional video teleconferences on a mobile platform, the system comprising:

- a video teleconference terminal disposed on a mobile platform;
- a local area network arranged to provide network data services on the mobile platform and arranged to communicate with the first video teleconference terminal;
- a transceiver coupled to the local area network and arranged to transmit and receive first packets of video teleconference data and second packets of data for services other than video teleconferencing; and
- a quality of service device coupled between the video teleconference terminal and the local area network on the mobile platform and arranged to prioritize the first packets of video teleconference data that are transmitted from the mobile platform over the second packets of data that are transmitted from the mobile platform for services other than video teleconferencing.

15. The system of Claim 14, further comprising:

- a plurality of headsets, each headset having a microphone and at least one headphone; and
- an audio interface connectable to the video teleconference terminal and the plurality of headsets, the audio interface unit being arranged to supply to all of the headphones an audio signal that includes first audio signal components from all of the microphones and that further includes a second audio signal

component received by the transceiver from a remote video teleconference terminal.

16. The system of Claim 15, wherein the microphones include noise canceling microphones.

17. The system of Claim 15, wherein the headphones include noise canceling headphones.

18. The system of Claim 15, wherein the packets of data are transmitted and received via satellite links.

19. The system of Claim 15, wherein the mobile platform includes an aircraft.

20. An aircraft comprising:

a fuselage;

transmit and receive antennas mounted on the fuselage; and

a system for providing bidirectional video teleconferences on the aircraft, the system comprising:

a video teleconference terminal;

a local area network arranged to provide network data services on the aircraft and arranged to communicate with the video teleconference terminal;

a transceiver coupled to the local area network and to the transmit and receive antennas, the transceiver being arranged to transmit and receive first packets of video teleconference data and second packets of data for services other than video teleconferencing; and

a quality of service device coupled between the first video teleconference terminal and the first local area network on the aircraft and arranged to prioritize the first packets of video teleconference data that are transmitted from the aircraft over the second packets of data that are transmitted from the aircraft for services other than video teleconferencing.

21. The aircraft of Claim 20, further comprising:

a plurality of headsets, each headset having a microphone and at least one headphone; and

an audio interface connectable to the video teleconference terminal and the plurality of headsets, the audio interface unit being arranged to supply to all of the headphones an audio signal that includes first audio signal components from all of the microphones and that further includes a second audio signal component received by the transceiver from a remote video teleconference terminal.

22. The aircraft of Claim 21, wherein the microphones include noise canceling microphones.

23. The aircraft of Claim 21, wherein the headphones include noise canceling headphones.

24. The aircraft of Claim 21, wherein the packets of data are transmitted and received via satellite links.

25. A method for conducting a video teleconference on a mobile platform, the method comprising:

providing a video teleconference terminal on a mobile platform;
placing packets of video teleconference data on a local area network on the mobile platform;
prioritizing first packets of video teleconference data to be transmitted from the mobile platform over second packets of data to be transmitted from the mobile platform for services other than video teleconferencing; and
transmitting the first packets of video teleconference data from the mobile platform via radio frequency communications.

26. The method of Claim 25, further comprising prioritizing third packets of video teleconference data to be transmitted to the mobile platform over fourth packets of data to be transmitted to the mobile platform for services other than video teleconferencing.

27. The method of Claim 25, further comprising:

providing a headset to each video teleconference participant on the mobile platform, each headset having a microphone and at least one headphone; and supplying to all of the headphones an audio signal that includes first audio signal components from all of the microphones and that further includes a second audio signal component received from a remote video teleconference terminal.

28. The method of Claim 27, further comprising canceling noise from the microphones.
29. The method of Claim 27, further comprising canceling noise in the headphones.
30. The method of Claim 25, wherein the radiofrequency communications are performed via satellite links.
31. The method of Claim 25, wherein the mobile platform includes an aircraft.